

Lyndonville Central School District

Extracurricular Activities Student Code

(Revised, July 2018)

Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege that entails increased responsibility on the part of students who choose to participate. Participation in extracurricular activities on behalf of the Lyndonville Central School District signifies consent to this code of conduct. School personnel will ensure that this code is accessible via hard copy and/or electronically on the District website.

Overview:

The Lyndonville Central School District believes that involvement in extracurricular activities is an integral part of a student's total educational program as it forms a connection between the student and the school community and nurtures each student's special interests and abilities. The intent of these regulations is to foster and promote good citizenship, sportsmanship and conduct by all students. Students and their parents/guardians will be expected to read and comply with this extracurricular activity code.

Extracurricular participation is defined as involvement in any non-credit bearing, school sponsored organization or activity including class organizations, clubs, athletic teams, dances, musicals, class trips, and prom. As representatives of our school and community, students are expected to exemplify positive role models. For this reason, additional protocols regarding the use of alcohol, tobacco/vaping performance enhancing substances, and other illegal chemical substances; as well as citizenship and sportsmanship are required by the Lyndonville Central School District. Therefore, students are expected to use good judgment and avoid situations in which alcohol or other drugs are being used illegally. Further, students are expected to engage in behavior that demonstrates the ideals of good citizenship. ***This code of conduct will be applied for the entire school year.*** Violations will carry over from year to year. For instance, the first time a student violates the drug / alcohol policy will be a "strike one" for the remainder of the student's athletic and extracurricular career, or until graduation.

Decisions involving improper student conduct are made collaboratively by designated school officials. If a student/parent/guardian disputes the guilt of the student relating to drugs, alcohol, and tobacco/vaping, the dispute will be decided upon by the Extracurricular Activities Code Committee.

Citizenship:

Extracurricular participants are expected to follow the rules and regulations of the school district as stated in the Lyndonville School District's Code of Conduct. Each member of an extracurricular activity or athletic team is expected to do the following: attend all practice sessions or meetings, refrain from all profane and vulgar language, demonstrate good sportsmanship and cooperative attitudes, and treat all officials, coaches, advisors, and spectators with respect. A few examples of unacceptable behavior are: truancy, insubordination, hazing, vandalism, academic dishonesty, bullying/cyber threats, stealing and violation of the rights of others. **This list is not exhaustive and other behaviors/infractions may be considered to fall into this category.**

As school representatives, students are expected to be positive role models through their own actions. Actions meant to demean officials and other participants do not support the highest ideals of interscholastic and extracurricular activities and will not be tolerated. Consequences for displaying poor citizenship and sportsmanship can result in a suspension from the extracurricular activity ranging from one day to one school year based on the nature and level of severity of the offense as determined cooperatively by designated school officials.

Behavior and Conduct of Participants:

Good community citizenship is required of all participants of extracurricular activities and involves following a high standard of behavior and conduct while in or out of the school setting. Students are expected to follow all laws, school policies, and regulations. Any student who is arrested or receives an appearance ticket by police may be suspended from all extracurricular activities until the infraction can be investigated by the designated school official.

- a. Extracurricular participants who violate the Lyndonville Central School District Code of Conduct may be subject to additional disciplinary action by the coach/advisor. This will result in a variety of consequences ranging from a temporary suspension to dismissal from the activity depending upon the severity of the offense. Disciplinary decisions that may result in a lengthy suspension or dismissal from the extracurricular activity must be approved by the designated school official.
- b. Students engaging in criminal activity prior to the commencement of an extracurricular activity may be barred from participation for that activity provided that the designated school official determines that the student was, in fact, arrested or issued an appearance ticket which makes participation in any extracurricular activities inappropriate.

Responsibilities of Extracurricular Participants as Student Spectators:

Students representing and attending events involving the Lyndonville School District will recognize and show appreciation for both Lyndonville and the opposing athletic teams or participants in an extracurricular activity. Admission to an event extends the privilege of observing a contest and is considered a contract to act in an appropriate and sportsmanlike

manner. Students are expected to respect the integrity of each event and the judgment of contest officials, supervisors and coaches/advisors. Furthermore, all student spectators are held to the same behavior/academic/attendance standards as participants.

Equipment/Supplies:

Please be aware that students are accepting school property when you join an athletic team or activity. As such, you are responsible for any and all athletic or activity clothing/equipment that you are given. In the event that any piece is not returned please be aware that you will be financially responsible for the cost of replacement and will forfeit the privilege to participate in further extracurricular activities, and any awards received will be withheld until the financial obligation is met

Attendance:

Students are expected to attend all classes during the school day in order to participate in extracurricular activities after school. The exception is made for a bona fide appointment such as dentist, doctor, court, or college visitation or other absences deemed legal by New York State Education law other than illness and must be verified by an appropriate legal written excuse.

- a. Absences: If a student is truant, suspended in or out of school, or has an unexcused absence, they may not participate in any extracurricular activities that day.
- b. Absences due to illness: If a student is excused from the whole school day due to illness, s/he may not participate in any extracurricular activity that day.
- c. Tardy: Any student who is late to school is considered tardy. If tardiness is not a recurring problem, permission may be granted to participate in extracurricular activities. If tardiness has been a problem, the student is not allowed to participate that day and a suspension of the next scheduled activity may occur by a designated school official.
- d. Absence Following Extracurricular Events: Each student must make every effort to attend school the day following an extracurricular activity. If a pattern of absences develops following an extracurricular activity, the coach/advisor will take appropriate disciplinary action. If absences occurring after extracurricular events are an ongoing problem as deemed by the designated school official, participation in the next scheduled extracurricular event may be suspended.

Academic Eligibility Procedures

Academic grade reports are provided approximately every three weeks and students who fail 2 or more courses are deemed to be on academic probation. (Parents/Guardians may access their student's grades on Parent Portal at any time during the school year.)

While on **Academic Probation** the student may practice and participate in the extracurricular activity, however, they must utilize any WICOR Workshops as well as after school time to receive extra help from teachers.

At the end of the approximate 3 week period if the student has achieved a passing grade from the failing course grade they must submit a copy of their grade report from all course(s) to their coach/advisor for verification. Upon verification by their coach/advisor the student will be taken off the probation list for that course.

By the end of the approximate 3 weeks, if the student has not brought the grade to passing, they will be placed on **Academic Suspension** until they have recovered the credit from the failing course. At this time, the student will **not** be able to participate in any extracurricular activities. The student will be required to sit out of practices, scrimmages, contests, rehearsals, and meetings a minimum of one week.

When the student has raised the failing course grade to passing, they must submit a copy of their grade report from all courses to their coach/advisor for verification. Upon verification by the coach/advisor the student will be allowed to participate in all practices, scrimmages, contests, rehearsals, and meetings once again. However, if the student is failing any of the same classes, once again, in the same interim period, they will be suspended again until passing and they would need to sit out another full week. This process would repeat throughout the interim period.

Merged District Activities

All students participating in a merged activity will be required to adhere to this Extracurricular Activities Student Code as well as any additional expectations articulated in the policies of the host school.

Extracurricular Rules Established by Coach/Advisor:

In addition to the extracurricular rules set forth in this policy, the individual coach/advisor may establish rules for the activity above and beyond what is outlined in this policy. Some areas regulated by the coach/advisor rules may be, but are not limited to, curfews, lateness to an activity, or insubordination to the coach/advisor. Violations to these rules may range from a warning, to suspension, to dismissal from the extracurricular activity. Additional disciplinary decisions that may result in a lengthy suspension or dismissal from the extracurricular activity must be approved by the building principal.

Extracurricular Activities Code Committee (EACC):

When the student/parent/guardian disputes alleged guilt regarding drug/alcohol/tobacco/vaping violation, the Extracurricular Activities Code Committee (EACC) is responsible for reviewing information presented by the disputing party. The EACC will meet within a reasonable time following an alleged incident. The committee will be presented with the facts compiled by the designated school official, including any additional statements from the student and/or parent. The committee will make a determination based on the information provided.

The Committee may consist of, but is not limited to, a designated school official, one school District health professional (school nurse or physician), counselor(s), one teacher (secondary level), and one teacher (elementary level). Student-Athletes awaiting a review from the EACC may be subject to suspension on the interim basis from the coach/advisor, Athletic Director, or Building Principal. The EACC has discretion in assigning penalties in cases it reviews.

Drugs & Alcohol & Tobacco/Vaping Products: We believe strongly in educating students in the areas of substance abuse. Any student using, possessing, (buying or selling) drugs, alcohol, tobacco/vaping and/or illegal substances may be denied participation in extracurricular activities and/or face suspension from participation. **This list is not exhaustive and other behaviors/infractions may be considered to fall into this category.**

First Offense

A. For minor infractions (ie. being at a party with alcohol/guilty by association, caught smoking/vaping, using chewing tobacco): students may face exclusion from participation in interscholastic sports and extracurricular activities for up to 20% of scheduled contests or activities. Successful participation in services provided by GCASA will result in a reduction of the percentage of suspension time to no less than 10% of scheduled contests or events/activities. Should the time of suspension run longer than the length of the season or activity, the suspension will be carried over to the next extracurricular activity or sport. Due to the variations among activities and the infractions the administrator/ review committee, made up of a multidisciplinary team of at least three individuals, needs to have the appropriate flexibility in determining a penalty.

OR

B. For major infractions (ie. use/possession of illegal substances, under the influence of illegal substances or alcohol): Exclusion from participation in interscholastic sports and extracurricular activities for five (5) school months to run consecutively into the next school year, if necessary. Successful participation in services provided by GCASA will result in a reduction of the suspension time to no less than three months to run consecutively into the next school year if necessary.

Second Offense

A. For minor infractions (ie. being at a party with alcohol/guilty by association, caught smoking/vaping, using chewing tobacco): students may face exclusion from participation in interscholastic sports and extracurricular activities for up to 40% of scheduled contests or activities. Successful participation in services provided by GCASA will result in a reduction of the percentage of suspension time to no less than 20% of scheduled contests or events/activities. Should the time of suspension run longer than the length of the season or activity, the suspension will be carried over to the next extracurricular activity or sport. Due to the variations among activities and the infractions the administrator/ review committee, made up of a multidisciplinary team of at least three individuals, needs to have the appropriate flexibility in determining a penalty.

OR

B. For major infractions (ie. use/possession of illegal substances, under the influence of illegal substances) Exclusion from participation in interscholastic sports and extracurricular activities for ten (10) school months to run consecutively into the next school year, if necessary. Successful participation in services provided by GCASA will result in a reduction of the suspension time to no less than six months to run consecutively into the next school year if necessary.

Third Offense and all subsequent offenses

For any infraction, minor or major, committed by someone for the third time may include: Exclusion from participation in interscholastic sports and extracurricular activities for up to ten (10) school months to run consecutively into the next school year, if necessary.

Consequences at all levels of offenses pertaining to this code are in effect from one sport season or extracurricular activity to the next (e.g., student plays football and basketball but is not able to serve all the game suspension during football season, then the remaining games will be served during basketball season).

Offenses are consecutive and penalties accrue from one year to the next.

OR

The student athlete may be excluded from participation for the rest of their academic career.

Criminal Offense

In the event you are charged with a crime you will be suspended from the extracurricular activity pending administrative review by principal and/or superintendent.

Self-Referrals for Assistance with Drug, Tobacco and/or Alcohol Abuse

A student who self-refers him/herself for drug, tobacco/vaping, and/or alcohol abuse is not exempt from the penalties and procedures outlined in this policy.

If a student verifies that s/he has pursued an evaluation and recommended treatment with a New York State certified substance abuse counselor or agency, s/he lessens the period of suspension by no more than half of the period of the suspension. The student and parents may consult with a member of the student support or counseling staff to obtain an appropriate referral for counseling services.

Attending Gatherings:

A student present at locations where he/she knows that the illegal use of alcohol and/or other illegal substances is/are occurring, will be subject to the same penalty as those involved with use or possession.

Commitment to Extracurricular Activities:

It is expected that a student participates in the activity for the duration of the season (including postseason)/rehearsals/activity. If a student desires to quit an extracurricular activity they should first meet with the coach/advisor to discuss with them their reasons for withdrawing from that activity. The student must then meet with a designated school official to officially withdraw from that activity.

Violation Reports and Penalties:

Extracurricular Code of Conduct violation reports will be accepted only from coaches, administrators, teachers, school personnel or police officers who have personal knowledge of the violation. Violation Reports are submitted directly to the Building Principal.

It is the responsibility of the coach/advisor to inform the student's parent of the violation. Substantiated violations of this code will result in penalties ranging from suspension to dismissal from the extracurricular activity as listed in the general rules of conduct.

Alleged violations from all other sources must be based on personal knowledge, and addressed directly to the Superintendent of Schools. If reasonable suspicion exists, school authorities will conduct a thorough investigation.

A decision on the penalty will be made by a designated school official. The District reserves the right to determine any appropriate penalty based on the circumstances of a violation. When determining the penalty, consideration will be given to the type of violation and previous involvement in other violations by that particular student.

The student and the parent/guardian will be notified by the designated school official within a reasonable amount of time of the determination of the suspension or dismissal, and if they desire, the appeal procedure.